

38

R E A S O N S

Against the Exportation of any *English* or *Irish*

W O O L ,

With a *PROPOSAL* of other ways

FOR THE

Advancement of the *PRICE* thereof.

Humbly offered to the Consideration of the Honourable House
of COMMONS.

I, **T**HAT *WOOL* is one of the principal Native Commodities of the Kingdoms of *England* and *Ireland*; and that therefore the chief benefit and advantage thereof ought to redound unto the Subjects and Inhabitants of the same, and not to the Subjects or Inhabitants of any other Realm whatsoever.

II. That the manufacturing of the *WOOL*, is one of the chiefe means for the employing and maintaining all the Poor of this Kingdom. — And that the profit arising to the Nation by the manufacturing thereof is very much greater then the profit that ariseth by the *Wool* it self, which profit is wholly lost unto this Nation, and put into the hands of Forreigners, if the Exportation of *Wool* should be permitted.

III. That there are multitudes of Poor in this Kingdome ready to starve for lack of Employment, And that there are People enough in *England* to Manufacture the *Wool* of both Kingdoms: — And that therefore that the great Cheapness of *Wool* doth not arise from being of a greater Quantity than can be Manufactured in this Kingdom, but from the want of a sufficient vent for it when Manufactured.

1. And that the great want of vent for our English Manufacture doth arise from the great restraint that is laid upon the Trade of this Kingdom, by the *East-India* and *Guinny* Companies: those two Companies having Monopolised to themselves the sole Trade of above half the World; utterly excluding all other His Majesties Subjects from Trading unto any of the places within either of their Charters, though they neither do, or can, send out neer so much of our Woollen Manufactures, as would be sent out, if there were no such Monopolies.

2. From the intollerable Impositions that are laid upon the Manufacture of *England* abroad by the *French King* and others; and at home, by the present *East-India Company*, who have laid ten pounds upon every piece of Woollen Cloth, five pounds upon every Cloth Rash, three pounds upon every Woollen or Worsted Stuff, five pounds upon every piece of Bayes, that is sent by any, but themselves, unto any part within their Charter.

If therefore this Honourable House would be pleased to take care,

I. That all Impositions laid upon our Woollen Manufacture by any foreign Prince or State whatever since the year 1660, should speedily be taken off.

II. That the Joynt Stocks of *East-India* and *Guinny Companies*, should be dissolved, and those Trades put under the Government of such Regulated Companies, into which any of his Majesties Subjects might equally and freely be admitted, and might at any time send out as much of our Woollen Manufacture and to as many places as they should see fit.

It is humbly conceived, That the price of Wooll, would speedily rise, the poor of this Nation be employed and maintained, the Clothier grow rich, the Trade of Merchants be much bettered, the Navigation increased, and consequently the Riches and Stock of the whole Kingdom be much advanced.

But on the contrary, That the Exportation of Wooll (though it may be much for the present profit of a few particular persons) would unavoidably tend to the taking away the employment and maintenance of most of the poor of this Nation, and to the poverty of the Clothier, the damage of the Merchant, the decrease of the Navigation, and consequently the great loss and impoverishment of the Kingdom in general.